

USDC SDNY

DOCUMENT

ELECTRONICALLY FILED

DOC #:

DATE FILED: 3/30/2023

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----	x	
	:	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	:	
	:	CONSENT PRELIMINARY
- v. -	:	ORDER OF FORFEITURE
	:	AS TO SPECIFIC PROPERTY/
FRANKLIN RAY,	:	<u>MONEY JUDGMENT</u>
	:	
Defendant.	:	S1 22 Cr. 228 (AT)
	:	
-----	x	

WHEREAS, on or about March 28, 2023, FRANKLIN RAY (the "Defendant"), was charged in a five-count Superseding Information, S1 22 Cr. 228 (the "Information"), with wire fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343, 3147, and 2 (Count One); wire fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343 and 2 (Counts Two through Four); and aggravated identity theft, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1028A(a)(1), 1028A(b), and 2 (Count Five);

WHEREAS, the Information included a forfeiture allegation as to Counts One and Three of the Information, seeking forfeiture to the United States, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), of any and all property, real and personal, that constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the commission of the offenses charged in Counts One and Three of the Information, including but not limited to a sum of money in United States currency representing the amount of proceeds traceable to the commission of the offenses charged in Counts One and Three of the Information, and the following specific property:

- a. Approximately \$8,014,542.84 in funds formerly on deposit in JPMorgan Chase Account 587327039, held in the name of "CSA Business Solutions LLC";

- b. Approximately \$29,928.26 in funds formerly on deposit in Comerica Bank Account 1853227906;
- c. Approximately \$20,298.38 in funds formerly on deposit in JPMorgan Chase Account 707327828;
- d. Approximately \$13,088.90 in funds formerly on deposit in DFCU Financial Checking Account 209383348, held in the name of “Franklin G. Ray”;
- e. Any and all funds on deposit in PNC Bank Account 41-6216-2537, up to and including \$39,596.23, held in the name of “Marsha G. Ray and Franklin Ray,” and all funds traceable thereto, including accrued interest;
- f. Approximately \$84,555.05 in funds formerly on deposit in Fifth Third Bank Account 7981225365, held in the name of “CSA Business Solutions LLC”; and
- g. Approximately \$105,838.73 in funds formerly on deposit in JPMorgan Chase Account 659155698, held in the name of “CSA Aviation Inc.,”

(a. through g., collectively, the “Specific Property”);

WHEREAS, the Information included a second forfeiture allegation with respect to Counts Two and Four of the Information, seeking forfeiture to the United States, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(2)(A), of any and all property constituting, or derived from, proceeds obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of the commission of the offenses charged in Counts Two and Four of the Information, including but not limited to a sum of money in United States currency representing the amount of proceeds traceable to the commission of the offenses charged in Counts Two and Four of the Information, and the Specific Property;

WHEREAS, on or about March 28, 2023, the Defendant pled guilty to Counts One through Five of the Information, pursuant to a plea agreement with the Government, wherein the Defendant admitted the forfeiture allegation with respect to Counts One through Four of the Information and agreed to forfeit to the United States, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code,

Sections 981(a)(1)(C) and 982(a)(2)(A) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c): (i) a sum of money equal to \$42,128,912.00 in United States currency, representing proceeds traceable to the commission of the offenses charged in Counts One through Four of the Information; and (ii) all right, title and interest of the Defendant in the Specific Property;

WHEREAS, the Defendant consents to the entry of a money judgment in the amount of \$42,128,912.00 in United States currency, representing the amount of proceeds traceable to the offenses charged in Counts One through Four of the Information that the Defendant personally obtained;

WHEREAS, the Defendant further consents to the forfeiture of all his right, title and interest in the Specific Property, which constitute proceeds traceable to the commission of the offenses charged in Counts One through Four of the Information that the Defendant personally obtained;

WHEREAS, the Defendant admits that, as a result of acts and/or omissions of the Defendant, the proceeds traceable to the offenses charged in Counts One through Four of the Information that the Defendant personally obtained cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence, with the exception of the Specific Property; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(g), and Rules 32.2(b)(3), and 32.2(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the Government is now entitled, pending any assertion of third-party claims, to reduce the Specific Property to its possession and to notify any and all persons who reasonably appear to be a potential claimant of their interest herein;

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and between the United States of America, by its attorney Damian Williams, United States Attorney, Assistant United States

Attorney Matthew Weinberg, of counsel, and the Defendant and his counsel, Anthony Strazza, Esq., that:

1. As a result of the offenses charged in Counts One through Four of the Information, to which the Defendant pled guilty, a money judgment in the amount of \$42,128,912.00 in United States currency (the "Money Judgment"), representing the amount of proceeds traceable to the offenses charged in Counts One through Four of the Information that the Defendant personally obtained, shall be entered against the Defendant.

2. As a result of the offenses charged in Counts One through Four of the Information, to which the Defendant pled guilty, all of the Defendant's right, title and interest in the Specific Property is hereby forfeited to the United States for disposition in accordance with the law, subject to the provisions of Title 21, United States Code, Section 853.

3. Pursuant to Rule 32.2(b)(4) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, this Consent Preliminary Order of Forfeiture as to Specific Property/Money Judgment is final as to the Defendant FRANKLIN RAY, and shall be deemed part of the sentence of the Defendant, and shall be included in the judgment of conviction therewith.

4. All payments on the outstanding Money Judgment shall be made by postal money order, bank or certified check, made payable to the United States Marshals Service, and delivered by mail to the United States Attorney's Office, Southern District of New York, Attn: Money Laundering and Transnational Criminal Enterprises Unit, One St. Andrew's Plaza, New York, New York 10007 and shall indicate the Defendant's name and case number.

5. The United States Marshals Service is authorized to deposit the payments on the Money Judgment into the Assets Forfeiture Fund, and the United States shall have clear title to such forfeited property.

6. Upon entry of this Consent Preliminary Order of Forfeiture as to Specific Property/Money Judgment, the United States Marshals Service (or its designee) is hereby authorized to take possession of the Specific Property and to hold such property in its secure custody and control.

7. Pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(n)(1), Rule 32.2(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, and Rules G(4)(a)(iv)(C) and G(5)(a)(ii) of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims and Asset Forfeiture Actions, the United States is permitted to publish forfeiture notices on the government internet site, www.forfeiture.gov. This site incorporates the forfeiture notices that have been traditionally published in newspapers. The United States forthwith shall publish the internet ad for at least thirty (30) consecutive days. Any person, other than the Defendant, claiming interest in the Specific Property must file a Petition within sixty (60) days from the first day of publication of the Notice on this official government internet web site, or no later than thirty-five (35) days from the mailing of actual notice, whichever is earlier.

8. The published notice of forfeiture shall state that the petition (i) shall be for a hearing to adjudicate the validity of the petitioner's alleged interest in the Specific Property, (ii) shall be signed by the petitioner under penalty of perjury, and (iii) shall set forth the nature and extent of the petitioner's right, title or interest in the Specific Property, the time and circumstances of the petitioner's acquisition of the right, title and interest in the Specific Property, any additional facts supporting the petitioner's claim, and the relief sought, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(n).

9. Pursuant to 32.2 (b)(6)(A) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the Government shall send notice to any person who reasonably appears to be a potential claimant with standing to contest the forfeiture in the ancillary proceeding.

10. Upon adjudication of all third-party interests, this Court will enter a Final Order of Forfeiture with respect to the Specific Property pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(n), in which all interests will be addressed. All Specific Property forfeited to the United States under a Final Order of Forfeiture shall be applied towards the satisfaction of the Money Judgment.

11. Pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), the United States is authorized to seek forfeiture of substitute assets of the Defendant up to the uncollected amount of the Money Judgment.

12. Pursuant to Rule 32.2(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the United States Attorney's Office is authorized to conduct any discovery needed to identify, locate or dispose of forfeitable property, including depositions, interrogatories, requests for production of documents and the issuance of subpoenas.

13. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to enforce this Consent Preliminary Order of Forfeiture as to Specific Property/Money Judgment, and to amend it as necessary, pursuant to Rule 32.2 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

14. The signature page of this Consent Preliminary Order of Forfeiture as to Specific Property/Money Judgment may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original but all of which together will constitute one and the same instrument.

AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:

DAMIAN WILLIAMS
United States Attorney for the
Southern District of New York

By:



MATTHEW WEINBERG
Assistant United States Attorney
One St. Andrew's Plaza
New York, NY 10007
(212) 637-286

3/28/23

DATE


FRANKLIN RAY

By:


FRANKLIN RAY

3/28/2023
DATE

By:


ANTHONY STRAZZA, ESQ.
Attorney for Defendant
245 Main Street, Suite 420
White Plains, NY 10601

3/28/23
DATE

SO ORDERED:



HONORABLE ANNALISA TORRES
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

March 30, 2023
DATE New York, New York